

NOTES IN THE PROVINCES.

A NEW church is about to be built in the Bedlington-road, North Briston, the neighbourhood of which has become a new village from the immense quantity of buildings which have been recently erected there.—It is said that the Roman Catholics have obtained a lease of a large portion of ground at the head of Bronsfield Links, Edinborough, for a seminary on an extensive scale. Their present college at Blairs will be removed to it. It is further stated that the plans, which are now out of the hands of the architect, include the design of a magnificent cathedral. The same religious denomination are about to erect a splendid church, school, and presbytery, or priest's residence, in the immediate neighbourhood of Burnley, at an estimated cost of about 6,000l.—It is in contemplation to erect a theatre in Bridgwater. Some of the most respectable inhabitants have started the project of building it by shares. The want of such a place of amusement has for a long time been complained of by parties visiting the town.—A movement has been made in Newcastle, with a view to the establishment of a collegiate institution in that town, in connection with the London University.—The Committee appointed to superintend the rebuilding of St. Alkmund's Church, Derby, have issued a second appeal to their friends and the public. They require an addition of at least 1,500l. to the funds already subscribed, exclusive of 700l. for a spire.—The Stockton and Darlington suspension bridge across the river Tees, near Stockton, which was opened to the public in 1830, is now nearly taken down, the engines, coaches, and waggons, have for some time past crossed the river on the new bridge, which is erected at a short distance, in a more substantial manner. The demolition of this structure, once an object of general admiration, attracted thousands of persons to the spot.—The present Widdford Bridge, on the road between Chelmsford and Ingatestone, in Essex, having been pronounced unsafe, the county invited tenders for a new iron bridge, and Messrs. Cottam and Hallen, of Winsley-street, Oxford-street, obtained the contract at 730l. and the old materials. It is to be completed in about two months from the present time, under the supervision of Mr. Hopper.—The Durham Victoria Harbour, erected at the expense of the Fishery Board and town of Dunbar, is now completed. The local committee have been so much satisfied with the unwearied attention and anxious superintendence of Mr. David Ross, the inspector of works, that they have presented him with a handsome watch, bearing a suitable inscription. The contractors were Messrs. David Lyon, and Co.—At a meeting of the Litchfield Diocesan Church Extension Society, which took place on the 17th ultimo, the following grants were made:—

To Brockmoor new Church, in Kingswinford	£250 additional.
To Leigh, for increase of accommodation	60 "
To Bosley new Church, near Wednesbury	723 "
To Bligio, in Hartington	300 conditional
Towards a parsonage, at Quarry Bank, in Kingswinford	290 "
Towards Ditto, at Brown Edge, in Norton	200 "
Towards increase of Endowment of Coleham, in St. Julian's, Shrewsbury	150 "

—The committee for the erection of the new district church of St. Thomas, in the parish of St. John's, Coventry, have nearly brought their preliminary arrangements to a close. The town council have agreed to grant one acre and twenty-eight perches of waste land, situate in the Sommerland Butts, for a site in accordance with the suggestion of Mr. J. L. Akroyd, whose plans are to be carried out. The extreme dimensions of the new building will be 43 yards long and 24 wide. It is to contain 700 free sittings.—On Saturday last the Birkenhead Dock Committee commenced driving piles on the Seacombe side for the new river wall, which is to extend across the mouth of Wellway Pool. The first pile was driven about 20 yards from the Seacombe-slip.—On Tuesday week a meeting of the Yarmouth Haven and Pier Commissioners was held at their office, for the purpose of receiving ten-

dents for the completion of the new drawbridge, according to the plans of Mr. Birch. The only tenders were, one from Mr. Peto, and another from Mr. Simpson. We have not been able to learn the precise amount of the tenders, but are assured that Mr. Peto's exceeded 32,000l., while Mr. Simpson's was under 20,000l.—At the present time, in the diocese of Salisbury, the following new churches are in the course of erection:—At Chilton, in the parish of Bishop's Cannings; Sedghill, in the parish of Berwick St. Leonard; Zeals, in the parish of Mere; and at Cholderton, near Amesbury. The following churches are undergoing thorough repairing and repewing, with a view to increase the accommodation:—Melsham, Tilshead, Stratton St. Margaret, Wottonbary, and Sturt, near Devizes.—The woolcombers of Bradford are prosecuting their inquiries with a view to the improvement of their dwellings, and thereby to increase their comforts, and to promote their sanitary condition. A meeting of a few of the most influential gentlemen of the town was held in the Exchange on the 1st instant, for the purpose of assisting them.—At a meeting of the Yarmouth Church Trustees, held last week, it was resolved to expend the sum of 1,250l., in the repairs recommended in the report of Messrs. Hilling and Norfor, the surveyors deputed to inspect the fabric of the parish church of St. Nicholas.—The Newport Harbour Commissioners, a short time since, addressed a memorial to the Trinity Corporation, representing the disadvantageous situation of the present lighthouse, and soliciting that a new lighthouse, of similar construction to those at the Napier Sand and at Fleetwood, might be erected 1,650 yards S. by E. from the mouth of the Usk. It appears that the authorities at the Trinity Board suspended proceedings in the matter, pending experiments which are still in progress in respect of the best mode of obtaining a permanent foundation for structures in situations similar to that pointed out by the harbour commissioners of Newport; and the Trinity Board have instructed Mr. James Walker to "examine the said proposed situation, and to report his opinion as to the description of building which, in the event of the board's determining to accede to the prayer of the memorial, it may be most advisable to set up."—The general committee appointed at the last meeting of the Ipswich Town Council have elected a sub-committee, to whom is delegated the arrangements necessary to give éclat to the opening of the new custom-house. Several preliminary steps have been already taken, and measures are being adopted to raise the necessary funds by public subscription. The ceremony of the opening is fixed to take place on Monday the 21st of July: to be succeeded by a public dinner, and by aquatic sports, and a brilliant display of fireworks.—The annual report of the Health Committee of the Town-council of Liverpool, made a few days since, states that the operations of the baths and washhouses for the poor during the past year were of a most favourable character. After paying all expenses a surplus of upwards of 50l. was left. The new baths and washhouses now being erected in the north end of the town will cost nearly 7,000l., they will not be opened till next year. The committee strongly recommend the erection of a third establishment in a central locality, and there is every prospect of its being carried into effect. Thus, while the Corporation of London have contributed only about 500l. towards a similar object, the municipal authorities of Liverpool have spent 10,000l., and most likely they will soon devote 3,000l. or 4,000l. more to the same laudable purpose.—The railways are making such rapid progress in this country, that canal traffic cannot successfully compete with them. It is therefore proposed to convert certain of the canals into railroads. With this object in view, a meeting of the Kennet and Avon Canal Company was held on the 1st instant at the London Tavern, and on the 12th ult. the proprietors of the Ellesmere and Chester Canals met for the same purpose. In both cases there is every prospect of the conversion being made.—The Admiralty having refused the promoters of the South Wales Railway Bill leave to carry the line over the Severn by means of a bridge, Mr. Brunel proposes to effect the object in view by means of a tunnel under the river.—At the Warwick Quarter

Sessions, held last week, the presentment made at the last Sessions, stating "that the present prisons at Warwick ought to be removed, and that a new gaol and house of correction are necessary to be erected in a more eligible situation near to the town of Warwick," was confirmed on the motion of Sir John Mordaunt, bart., by a majority of two, there being 14 in its favour and 12 against it.

MANCHESTER. TEN CHURCHES ASSOCIATION.

A MEETING of the friends and members of this association was held last week, the Bishop of Chester in the chair. The report, which was read by the hon. secretary, traces the progress of the church-building spirit in Manchester during the last fifty years. In the first twenty years from 1745 to 1815, not one church was consecrated in that immense parish. From 1815 to 1825, two churches only were consecrated. From 1825 to 1835, five were consecrated, four of which were built out of the million parliamentary grant. From 1835 to the present time, the number of churches consecrated, or in course of erection, or about to be built, the money being already subscribed, is no less than twenty-eight, including the entire re-building of three on a greatly enlarged scale. In 1835, the number of churches in Manchester amounted to exactly thirty, it has consequently nearly doubled during the past ten years. From the treasurer's account, it appears that the receipts during the past year amount to 20,478l. 10s. and the expenditures to 20,183l. 12s. 9d. In the latter sum are the following items:—

Building of St. Bartholomew's Church	£4,392 11 9
" St. Matthias	4,766 9 11
" St. Silas	4,563 16 4
" St. Barnabas	5,860 7 3

There is the sum of 300l. 19s. 3d. in the debit account of the association under the head of "Drawback on St. Barnabas's Church." This sum has been received since the general account was made up, and added to the balance in banker's hands, subscriptions promised but uncollected, and cash recently received, make a sum of 4,673l. 19s. 3d. to begin the current year with. The proceedings of the meeting terminated with a proposal to raise 25,000l. for the erection and endowment of six other churches.

CARPENTERS IN FRANCE.

THERE is much commotion at this time amongst the carpenters; they have published a circular, setting forth that the sum of 4fr. a day, their established wage (in common with masons and others) for these twenty years past, is insufficient, and refuse to work for less than 5fr.; giving as reasons for the claim, 1st. that through bad weather and want of work, they, in reality, have only to depend on about seven months out of the twelve; 2nd. the progressive increase of the cost of food and lodging; and 3rd. that they run more personal risk than other operatives. They further refuse to undertake any "task-work," or work to be paid by the piece, and call on the masters to abandon the practice. "Task-work," says the circular, "is the ruin of industry. It kills the good workmen, and induces bad construction. Task-work is sometimes undertaken by a bold, good workman, who strives early and late to effect what he has agreed to, but more often it is taken either by men in extreme want or boys, who know nothing of the matter." Large numbers of them still remain out of employ.

PROPOSED JOINT-STOCK COMPANIES.

THE following is a summary of bills applied for during the present session of Parliament, for which a subscription contract, or undertaking in lieu thereof, has been deposited in Private Bill Office:—

Description.	Estimated expenditure.	Capital stock.	Money to be borrowed.
Railways	91,921,779	94,812,818	97,978,999
Navigations and canals	170,120	—	70,000
Waterworks	812,430	—	507,000
Ferries and Docks	1,642,000	1,000,000	1,100,000
Piers and Harbours	381,400	—	520,000
Bridges	69,200	22,000	7,333
Roads	3,000	—	—
	95,748,529	95,812,818	100,179,332